

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment and Response to the Office Action is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed November 26, 2004. Claims 1-7, 9-12, and 16-53 are pending in the above-referenced application and claims 9, 10, and 21-46 have been withdrawn. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 47-48 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) by Brown (U.S. Patent No. 4,536,008). The Examiner indicated claims 4-7 and 49-52 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph and rewritten in independent form.

By this paper, claims 1, 5, 47 and 50 have been amended. Claims 3-4 and 48-49 have been canceled. Withdrawn claims 21-46 have been canceled. Additionally, withdrawn claims 9-10 and 50-52 are submitted for reinstatement and allowance with generic claim 1. In view of these amendments and the following remarks, immediate allowance of claims 1-2, 5-7, 9-12, 16-20, 47, and 50-53 is respectfully requested.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-3 AND 47-48 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b) BY BROWN

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 47-48 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,536,008 to Brown, Jr. (hereinafter "Brown"). Claim 1 has been amended to include elements of claims 3 and 4. Claim 47 has been amended to include elements of claims 48 and 49. As noted above, claims 3, 4, 48, and 49 have been canceled. Because claim 2 depends from claim 1, claim 2 also includes the elements of claims 3 and 4. In the Office Action, the Examiner noted that claims 4 and 49 contain allowable subject matter. Therefore, claims 1-2 and 47 are allowable over Brown. Thus, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

WITHDRAWN CLAIMS 9-10, 21-46, AND 50-52

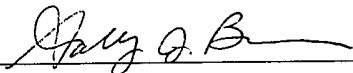
MPEP § 809.02(c)(B)(1) provides "When all claims to each of the additional species are embraced by an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141, applicant must be advised of the allowable generic claim and that claims drawn to the nonelected species are no longer withdrawn since they are fully embraced by the allowed generic claim." As noted above, Applicants submit that amended generic claims 1 and 47 are allowable. Therefore, Applicants

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request the reinstatement and allowance of withdrawn dependent claims 9-10 and 50-52 that depend from amended generic claims 1 and 47. Additionally, claims 21-46 have been canceled, placing the application in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If there are any remaining issues preventing allowance of the pending claims that may be clarified by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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